

The Shepherd Psalm

From the *Orkney Songbook* Volume I



Text as versified into Orkney dialect by T.T. Alexander
Music by Clive Strutt

Cover Illustration: *The Good Shepherd* fresco in the Priscilla Catacomb north of Rome.

The Shepherd Psalm

Composer's Notes

The Shepherd Psalm (No. 31 in Part 3 of Volume I in *The Orkney Songbook*) is a choral setting for SATB of a version of the Biblical Psalm XXIII versified in the Orcadian dialect by the Rev. Thomas Thomson Alexander (1881-1945). The premiere performance was given in Stromness Town Hall (Orkney) on 26th September 2010 by the Mayfield Singers directed by Denise Stout, and formed part of the final concert for the Big Orkney Song Project, which was coordinated by Dr Sarah-Jane Gibbon and Emily Turton.

A solo performance was given on 14th March 2014 at the Baptist Church, Kirkwall, Orkney, by Lindsay Blair at a concert given in honour of the retiring Baptist Minister, the Rev. Don Currie.

Clive Strutt, 16 September 2016

The Shepherd Psalm

(from the **Orkney Songbook** Volume I *From Verse on Orkney Subjects*)

Text: The 23rd Psalm versified into Orcadian dialect by T.T. Alexander.


Music: Clive Strutt

Duration: 2' 55"

C.M. *Old Orcadian 23rd*


(m.m. ♩ = 72)

SOPRANO
ALTO



v.1 E'en as a shep-herd tents his sheep, The Lord for
v.3 When I am boon to trav--el doon The murk-y
v.5 Guid-ness and mer--cy a' my days Are sic---car

TENOR
BASS



(v.1) me does fend; He maks me nest whaur past-----ure's
(v.3) Glen o' Daith, Nae dreid I bruick, His stave and
(v.5) At my side; And in God's hame I'll be fu'

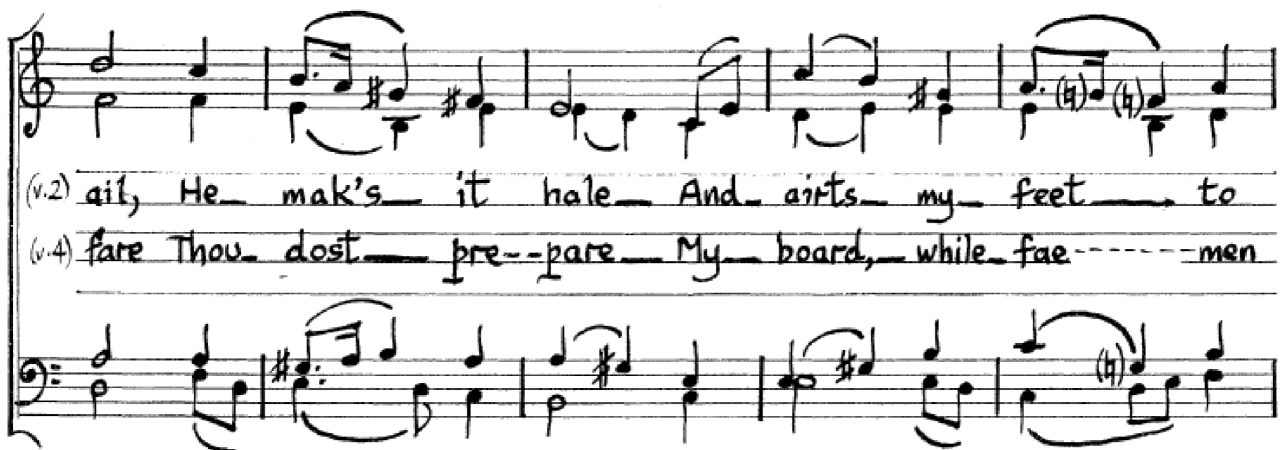


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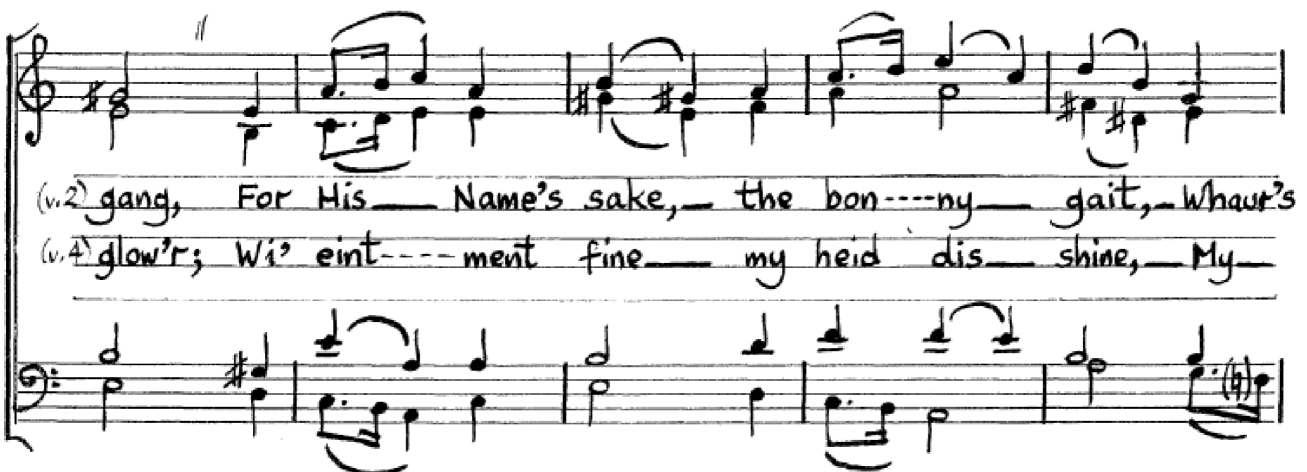
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(v.1) best And wimp--lin' wat-----ers wend.
 (v.3) crook Sall haud me free o' skaith.
 (v.5) fain For ev---er-----mair to bide. FINE



(v.2) aill, He mak's it hale And airts my feet to
 (v.4) fare Thou dost pre--pare My board, while fae-----men



(v.2) gang, For His Name's sake, the bon----ny gait, Whaur's
 (v.4) glow'r; Wi' eint---ment fine my heid dis shine, My

Handwritten musical score for 'The Shepherd Psalm'. The score is written on two staves, a treble staff and a bass staff, with lyrics in Gaelic. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and contains a melody of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and contains a bass line of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

(v.2) nochd — o' ill — or wrang. D.C. al FINE
 (v.4) bick-----er's skail-----in' owre.

